

**Barber Pool Conservation Area
YEAR 2003
End of Year Report**



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Introduction

The Barber Pool Conservation Area (BPCA) is one of the largest continuous blocks of undeveloped riparian areas remaining along the Boise River in Ada County and presents a unique ecological resource to the residents of Treasure Valley. The BPCA study area covers 712.68 acres, including water. The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) has managed the BPCA, under an agreement with the Idaho Foundation for Parks and Land, since 1994. The Friends of the Barber Pool Conservation Area formed in 1999 to raise public awareness of the area's importance, and to protect and enhance its ecological values.

The goals of the noxious weed control management plan are to: Prevent the introduction, reproduction and spread of noxious weeds and invasive exotic plants; Reduce the extent and density of established noxious weeds to levels that are acceptable; Implement the most economical and effective control methods for target weeds; Implement an integrated management system using appropriate methods of treatment and control; Educate the public as to the importance of proper weed management and get the needed media coverage to show what is being done.

The major weeds of importance in the area include Scotch Thistle, White Top, and Purple Loostripe. Major efforts are being made to control these weeds each year.

Chris Hoosick is the park manager of Lucky Peak State Park under which the management responsibilities of BPCA is included. Cooperators in the BPCA include private landowners, county government, and state land management agencies, as well as interested individuals and organizations.

Summary of Year 2003 Projects

This is the fifth year in which a dedicated effort has been made to control noxious weeds in the Barber Pool Conservation Area. Each season brings with it new challenges, rewards and accomplishments. The following is a brief narrative of what was accomplished.

Coordination Meetings

A coordination meeting was held prior to the field season to establish objectives, goals, finalize the annual operating plan with Ada County Weed and Pest Control. The annual operating plan was delivered to and approved by the Idaho Foundation for Parks and Land (landowners). The two private landowners who control the primary access into the area were notified and permission was granted to enter across their land.

The Plan

The 2003 operation plan identified several objectives: 1) prevent the reproduction and spread of scotch thistle and to lower the density of the large consolidated infestations by 50%; 2) utilize ATV's, backpack sprayers and mechanical means to eradicate the isolated pockets of thistle growing on the perimeter of the management unit; 3) monitor the biological control release sites for purple loostripe which occurred in 2002; 3) follow through with the monitoring and evaluation plan.

What Actually Happened

Utilizing the money received through the Department of Agriculture's Cost Share Program, Ada County Weed and Pest provided 34 hours of contract weed control work that included equipment, labor and supplies. Two operators riding ATV's equipped with tanks and sprayer were used to treat approximately 10.5 acres. Total area covered by the ATV's and crew in search of is estimated at 80 Acres. Their efforts were focused on treating the large dense infestations greater than 1/4 Acres. Because of the ATV's speed and carrying capacity they targeted areas that were far away from the main vehicle access point.

Lucky Peak State Park staff provided an additional 18.5 hours of control work utilizing backpack sprayers and hand shovels. Their objective was to eradicate the isolated pockets of thistle growing near watercourses and neighboring land. Approximately 12 acres of ground was covered.



Contributions and Expenditures for the BPCA

I'm a little behind the learning curve when it comes to the production of pie charts using the various software applications available. To save time and my sanity here is a breakdown of cash contributions, expenditures and in-kind contributions for the 2002 season.

Cash Contributions:

Idaho State Department of Agriculture-	\$2006.00
Idaho Foundation for Parks and Land-	\$00.00
Total-	\$2006.00

Expenditures:

Contract Labor, Supplies-	\$1789.90
Equipment-	\$146.01
Total-	\$1935.91

In-Kind Contributions:

IDPR Labor-	\$370.00
IDPR Equipment (vehicle, sprayers)	\$140.00
IDPR Chemical use	\$20.00
Total-	\$ 530.00

BPCA 2004 Season

The BPCA has big plans for Year 2004. Some of them include:

Continue the war against weeds no matter how limited our resources; identify and secure additional resources (funding, donations, equipment).

Submit to the ISDA a Cost Share Application for noxious weed control funds by December 31, 2003.

Resolve private landowner issues, which limits our ability to use volunteer groups. Improve staff's knowledge base and become effective in utilizing latest technology.

Our mapping efforts will be continued to ensure good tracking of weed infestations, bio-agent releases, and property ownership.

Appendix I

Cooperators

Sharon Hubler	Brian Wilber	Charles and Virginia McDevitt
ID. Foundation for Parks and Land	Ada Co. Weed & Pest	Private Landowner
Boise, ID 83712	Meridian, ID 83642	Boise, ID 83706
208-344-7141	208-888-2316	(W) 208-343-7500
Email Address	Email Address	Email Address

Dave and Ann Triplett	Marion and Betty Smith	Mark Hofflund
Private Landowner	Private Landowner	Idaho Shakespeare Festival
Boise, ID 83706	Boise, ID 83706	Boise, ID 83707
208-344-4527	208-343-3797	208-323-9700
Email Address	Email Address	Email Address
Brenda Waters	Name	Name
Idaho Dept. of Agriculture	BLM	USFWS
Boise, ID 83707	City, ID	City, ID
208-332-8540	Phone	Phone
Email Address	Email Address	Email Address

Appendix II

Project Summaries:

Project name	Weed species	Acres treated
Barber Pool	Scotch Thistle	22.5
	White Top	0
Biological Releases	None	0

GPS/GIS Mapping	Scotch Thistle, White Top	0

Appendix III

Maps